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2. (Amended) A perpendicular recording head comprising:
a nonmagnetic substrate having a surface oriented in a plane substantially parallel with tracks of a magnetic recording medium; and
a main pole comprising a magnetically permeable material plated on the surface of the substrate.

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3. (Amended) The perpendicular recording head according to claim 2, wherein said magnetically permeable material is electroplated.

4. (Amended) The perpendicular recording head according to claim 2, wherein said nonmagnetic substrate defines a step topology within said recording head.

9. (Amended) The perpendicular recording head according to claim 2, wherein said main pole has a width defined in a direction perpendicular to tracks of a magnetic recording medium, and said width does not exceed 300 nm.

11. (Amended) A method of making a main pole of a perpendicular recording head for use with a magnetic recording medium, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a nonmagnetic substrate having a surface oriented in a plane substantially parallel with tracks of a magnetic recording medium; and
depositing a magnetically permeable material on the surface of the substrate.

12. (Amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein said step of depositing the magnetically permeable material is performed by plating.

13. (Amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein said magnetically permeable material is magnetically soft.

14. (Amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein said magnetically permeable material is permalloy.

15. (Amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein said magnetically permeable material is Ni/Fe.

16. (Amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein said magnetically permeable material is a nitride.